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PRESS

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NAVIGATION CO.STEAM FOR STRAITS, OCEAN,
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Silk and Valuable and Tea and Cargo for
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Messrs. Penrath & Co. (monthly subscription)	100.00
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Staff-Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. (monthly subscription)	150.00
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Mr. R. Baker	20.00
Steamer Guard 110 Swidari Khan	10.00
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Mr. A. G. Warren (monthly subscription)	10.00
Mr. W. Murray Scott	72.50
Mr. E. Irving (monthly subscription)	10.00
Mr. G. H. Wakeman (monthly subscription)	25.00
Ladies' Bridge Book (monthly subscription)	10.00
A fund (Strait \$5)	4.37
Collected from the boxes at Peak Tram Station, Star Ferry and Blake Pier	2.32
Mr. F. L. Hokin	5.00
Victoria British School	12.00
Kowloon British School	13.30
Mr. S. G. Newall (monthly subscription for 2 months)	50.00
Mr. E. V. B. Bick	25.00
Mr. J. Elliott (monthly subscription)	5.00
Mr. S. Baker (monthly subscription)	5.00
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Mr. E. Davidson (monthly subscription)	20.00

(Continued at foot of next page.)

THE FORGED PASSPORT CASE AT SHANGHAI.

NORWEGIAN CONSUL TAKING ACTION.

Dr. Max Kindler and two others were taken before the Mixed Court at Shanghai on October 30th, before Mr. M. F. Perkins, American Assessor, and Magistrate Wong. The three men were charged as follows:—
Ernst Mathias Berthel, Austrian subject, married, chemist, of 384, Poochow Road, for that he did feloniously forge one passport purporting to have been issued by the Norwegian Consulate at Shanghai.
E. Joseph, Turkish subject, 15, Fenon Road, age 60, for that he did buy from one Max Kindler one forged Norwegian passport form and did fill in or cause to be filled in the same the name of Han Heidersen and other false particulars, the passport having affixed a false Consular stamp and signature, and did dispose of same contrary to law.
Dr. Max Kindler, Austrian subject, 21, of No. 194 North Szechuen Road, for that he on divers dates during the years 1915 and 1916 did feloniously cause to be forged passports purporting to issue from the Norwegian Consulate at Shanghai, and further did feloniously cause to be forged certain dies purporting to be dies used by the Norwegian Consulate at Shanghai, contrary to Articles 238 and 246 of the Chinese Provisional Criminal Code.
Inspector Wheeler produced a letter received from the Norwegian Consul-General asking for the case to be reserved for trial before a Norwegian Assessor, and an order to this effect was made.

GERMANS IN SIAM.

Among the number of curious objects which are to be seen in the precincts of the office of the Custodian of Enemy Property at the present time (says the Bangkok Times) is a large electric signalling lamp. It appears that certain Germans, whose fondness for residing at the seaside was well known, placed an order for the construction of this lamp with a local firm. The order was duly executed and delivered, and so the story goes, the lamp was successfully used at Hua Hin. After the lamp had been in use repairs or alterations were found necessary, and it was returned to the makers to enable these to be carried out. Siam entered the war the signal lamp was still with the makers and they forwarded it to the Custodian's office. The lamp is portable. It is contained in a stout oak box of about fifteen inches by two and a half feet deep. A strong leather handle is fitted to the top of the case to enable it to be carried easily by one man. The lamp was supplied with current from small batteries, and is fitted with a good-sized reflector, and switch for signalling. Its possibilities are obvious.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 3rd November is as follows:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate receipts for 44 weeks.
This Year	812,591	26,770,694
Last Year	13,750	631,983
Increase	1,189	39,380

Mr. E. L. Agassiz (monthly subscription)	20.00
Doulton	10.00
Staff-Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd. (monthly subscription)	50.00
Staff-General Post Office (monthly subscription)	41.85
Refund of the Special War Tax received from Sir R. Ho Tung for third quarter of 1917	140.30
Monthly subscriptions	2,459.50
Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association	
P. J. L. O. (monthly subscription)	10.00
Mr. H. A. Nisbet (monthly subscription)	25.00
Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin	25.00
P. J. L. O. (monthly subscription)	10.00
Mr. H. A. Nisbet (monthly subscription)	25.00
Officers' Families Fund	
P. J. L. O. (monthly subscription)	10.00
Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin (monthly subscription)	25.00
Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin (monthly subscription)	25.00
P. J. L. O. (monthly subscription)	10.00
Monthly subscriptions	53.09
Blindfold Soldiers and Sailors Fund	
Messrs. Patell & Co. (monthly subscription)	25.00
A. W. (monthly subscription)	5.00
Royal Navy and H. M. Dock yard	100.00
Monthly subscriptions	120.00
Star and Garter Fund	
M. S. and E. G. (monthly subscription)	10.00
Memorials of War Fund	
Some members of the Hongkong Club	12.52
Mr. A. W. Smith (monthly subscription)	25.00
Lord Londale's Motor Ambulance Fund	
Proceeds of Assault at Arms and sale of boxing gloves, Hongkong Police Reserve, 18th Mar.	1,136.61
Pipe Fund	
Mr. F. G. Becke (monthly subscription)	10.00
Red Cross Fund	
Staff-General Post Office (monthly subscription)	18.75
Staff-General Post Office	18.25
Monthly subscription	
Already acknowledged	\$ 10,007.35
	532,484.79
	543,072.14
Amounts remitted, etc.	520,336.65
Balance in hand	\$ 22,685.49
N. J. Brass (Hon. Treasurer)	

Hongkong, 31st October, 1917.

THE SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGE CASE.

In H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, Shanghai, on October 30th, Mr. Skinner Turner, Assistant Judge, delivered judgment in the case in which I. R. Michael claimed a declaration that he was still a member of the Shanghai Stock Exchange (incorporated under the Companies Ordinance of Hongkong) and entitled to enjoy and exercise the privileges of such membership.

It appeared that in June, 1910, there was considerable difficulty over the settlement of the result of the rubber boom. Several brokers were in difficulties, and after an ineffectual attempt had been made to tide over the difficulties amongst the members of the Exchange itself, an arrangement was come to with the Cathay Trust, Ltd., whereby that Company advanced considerable moneys to the Exchange for the assistance of these brokers and took over securities and shares from them; this arrangement was embodied in writing and the assisted brokers also in their turn entered into written engagements with the Exchange in return for the assistance they received. The plaintiff was one of the assisted brokers and received nearly five lakhs of the money advanced by the Cathay Trust. The Exchange then proceeded to make its inquiries into the business of these brokers, who had undertaken to produce their books for this inquiry and to assist in it. In November, 1910, the plaintiff was found repudiating part at all events of his agreement; he never produced his books nor gave assistance to the auditors appointed to make the inquiries. The Committee, then, in December, 1910, purported to suspend the plaintiff from the Exchange; and instituted criminal proceedings against him which resulted in his acquittal. At this time, they had before them the report of the auditor on his accounts. In March, 1911, after the conclusion of the criminal case, the committee called an extraordinary general meeting to consider the advisability of expelling certain members from the Exchange. Before that meeting was held the present plaintiff presented a petition to this Court to wind up the company, as it was insolvent. That petition was withdrawn by the plaintiff on April 25th, 1911, after he had notice of his expulsion, mainly in consequence of an arrangement between the Stock Exchange and the Cathay Trust, under which the latter practically gave up its right to repayment of the moneys advanced. The extraordinary general meeting was held on April 19th, 1911, and with a proper quorum and by the necessary majority passed a resolution expelling the plaintiff from membership and forfeiting his seat in the Exchange of which he was an original member.

The action was dismissed with costs. Notice of appeal was given.

REGISTRATION OF NATIVE SERVANTS.

An Ipoh Club boy has just been convicted of criminal breach of trust in respect of \$10 paid in by a member (says the Pining Gazette). Now what is to prevent that boy, after serving his sentence or paying the fine, from entering somebody's service on the strength of a borrowed "sarai," and thus posing as a paragon of honesty and an incarnation of all the virtues? Mr. A. C. J. Towers has, after much spade work, succeeded in persuading the Government to pass the Domestic Servants Registration Bill, both in the S.S. and the F.M.S., but (and oh! but for that, but!) His Excellency the Governor has said that the matter must be held over till after the war, as an officer of the rank of assistant commissioner of police cannot be spared. The point is that the shady ones of the domestic servant class will not likewise postpone their thieving and other equally objectionable activities till after the war. If they could only be persuaded to do this we shouldn't mind waiting. In any case, surely an officer of the rank of Chief Inspector, as Mr. Towers has recently pointed out in a letter to the local Press, would do just as well.

SAIGON RICE MARKET.

The Compagnie de Commerce et de Navigation d'Extreme-Orient, of Saigon, in their report dated October 24th, state: The market has been rather lively with a fair amount of sales to Java. Prospects for the new crop are very encouraging, and it is anticipated that there will be an output of 20 per cent over the average. The total amount of rice exported from the 1st of January up to the 16th of October is 981,224 tons against 1,003,416 tons in 1916. We quote to-day—White Saigon rice, No. 2 sifted, Japan quality: Hongkong dollars, 4.15 per picul f.o.b. Saigon, for November shipment.

NEW TEST OF DEATH.

A discovery of great value for testing with certainty whether a person is dead has been made by Dr. Shiro Tashiro, Professor of Physiology at Chicago University. As described in the Lancet, it is too technical for the layman's understanding, but a doctor explains that the test is made by crushing a piece of muscle and comparing it with a piece of uncrushed muscle. If the person is alive the crushed piece gives off more carbonic acid gas than the uncrushed piece, as a result of the stimulation produced by the injury. Dr. Tashiro claims that this test can be applied within a few minutes, or at most within one or two hours of death. There are, of course, other tests with which every doctor is quite satisfied, but this will be extremely valuable, as proving local death of the tissues after general death has occurred. There is life in the tissues for some time after death, and proof of their death sets all doubts at rest.

TRIBUTE TO OUR MERCHANT NAVY.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE STRAITS ON AFTER-THE-WAR POLICY.

In his speech at the naming of the new Empire Dock at Singapore on October 25th, H.E. the Governor (Sir Arthur Young, G.C.M.G.) paid a warm tribute to the British Mercantile Marine. He said:—

"We all know what the power of the Royal Navy has been in this terrible war, and the extent to which the Empire is indebted to the Navy cannot be overestimated. But have we expressed sufficiently our gratitude to those splendid men of the British Mercantile Navy? I confess I have not seen in the speeches delivered at home or in articles in the papers sufficient reference to the grand work carried out by our mercantile navy. Very probably—and I hope it may be so—I have missed the speeches and articles, but the heroism of these men is heroism of the highest quality. (Applause.) They have not the glory of fighters, but they know that if vessels were not manned in England would be in a bad way, for, putting aside the fact that food, munitions, and material for making munitions would not reach her; it would not be possible for her even to transport her troops."

The German authorities made a great mistake when they ordered the murder of Captain Fryatt on July 27th, 1916. It was a murder of the most deliberate character, and carried out for the purpose of deterring other captains from defending their ships. It is a murder which will never be forgotten by the mercantile navy. Although the man who ordered the murder may not hang for it, I am as sure as I stand here speaking to you that Germany will suffer for that atrocious murder, and it is only meet and right that she should suffer, for in one of the worst crimes in the war carried out in cold blood, did the murder deter any captain? No, of course not, and it shows how little the Kaiser or his people know the British spirit. No master or seaman, in fact no Britisher, will ever be deterred by German ferocity. Some 7,000 men of the mercantile navy have lost their lives, and in circumstances which have witnessed the mercantile navy against Germany. The barbaric methods of the Germans in their conduct of this war are well known, and I will only quote here three recent cases to show the depths to which the German Imperial Navy has sunk.

The steamer *Scrapis* was torpedoed on June 20th of this year without warning, and sank in a minute. Whilst the crew were struggling in the water the German submarine approached, took the captain and chief officer and steamed away leaving the others to their fate. The sole survivor was eventually picked up by a British man-of-war. What became of the captain and chief officer is unknown. Probably they were murdered as poor Fryatt was.

The steamer *Maritton* was torpedoed on July 15th last. She sank rapidly. Here again no time was given to take to the boats. The submarine came to the surface in the midst of her struggling and drowning victims. A school of sharks also appeared, and one by one these unfortunate Englishmen, except one, suffered a terrible death. The scene was watched by the German commander of the submarine who ignored all appeals for help and gloated over the death of these seamen.

The third case is that of the steamer *Belgian Prince* torpedoed on August 2nd when 200 miles from land. The officers and crew took to the boats which were ordered alongside the submarine. The captain was taken below, while the remaining 41 were mustered on deck. The boats were smashed by axes, the lifeboats taken away and then the submarine submerged leaving these 41 men in the water and 300 miles from land. By miracle there were three survivors. I have a list of eleven further authenticated cases in which the submarines fired on the boats escaping from the torpedoed ships. These cases show clearly that the commanders of the German Imperial Navy have orders to murder, and there are probably many cases which we have not heard of where orders have been carried out to the letter and no survivors left.

We have heard a great deal of the policy to be adopted after the war towards German trade and German shipping, but will not the policy to be adopted be largely the policy which the British seamen and firemen decide upon? Recommendations may be made and resolutions passed that all shall be forgotten and forgiven and German trade and German shipping shall be welcomed after the war, but it seems to me that all such resolutions and recommendations, even if they fill up the pockets of some of us, are worthless if the seamen and firemen of our mercantile navy decide otherwise. At the conference of seamen and firemen of Allied and neutral nations which met in London on August 17th last Mr. Havelock Wilson, the chairman of the British Seamen and Firemen's Association, stated that they should not permit after the war Germans to sail with them, and they should drive in the wedge against German shipowners themselves. Again at the Trades Union Congress held at Blackpool on September 5th last Mr. Havelock Wilson stated (I will quote his words)—"That British seamen had decided, at the end of the war, what our Government might do to see that the Germans were punished for their crimes, and that every crime they committed in the future would be included for punishment. He added significantly, 'Seamen had a peculiar way of doing things, but they got there.' It is clear what is meant by refusing to sail with Germans, but the words 'drive in the wedge against German shipowners' is not so clear. It may mean that British seamen and firemen will refuse to take a British ship into a British port unless that port is closed for a term of years to German shipping and German trade. Whatever the words may mean it is unmistakable that the policy and attitude of the British mercantile marine is such that Germany will suffer bitterly hereafter for such foul murders as that of Captain Fryatt and for the barbaric and treacherous methods with which the German Imperial Navy has conducted her warfare."

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHINESE TURKISTAN THE CRADLE OF THE WORLD.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I was greatly interested and pleased to read in the *China Press* of 29th October Dr. W. H. Ballou's illustrated article describing the recent discoveries made by the lady explorer, Mrs. Scoresby Routledge, M.A., on Easter Island, because they help to verify my finding that Easter Island and its prehistoric relics are the remains of a sunken continent, the Land of Nod mentioned in the Bible. (See page 9 of my book, "The Creation and the Origin of the Chinese.")

This sunken continent extended from Easter Island (its most Eastern promontory, to China, embracing all the scattered islands of Polynesia and Melanesia, most of which are mountain tops and extinct volcanoes.

The coral islands or "atolls" are the craters of extinct volcanoes around the lips of which the coral insect has succeeded in building up a ring of coral and walling in a lagoon of fresh water.

Owing to the volcanic nature of these islands, strong ethnological evidence exists that there has been more than one subsidence of land, since the Deluge.

The wonderful architectural works and prehistoric relics which exist on Mariana Island (Ladrones Islands), Ponape Island (Caroline Islands), Kusaie Island (Caroline Islands), Tonga-tapu (Tonga Islands), which are situated thousands of miles apart, are also the remains of the prehistoric civilization of this sunken continent, and what is more convincing, the natives of these islands are absolutely ignorant of the origin of these great works.

This vast continent, which formerly divided the Pacific into two oceans (North and South), was first convulsed by a great earthquake, and then submerged at the time when the whole of Central Asia (Chinese Turkestan, Northern India, Tibet and Mongolia) was upheaved some ten thousand feet, resulting in the earth's sudden list of about 15 degrees, and the hanging of the position of the North Pole from the centre of Greenland (about latitude 75 and longitude 40) to its present position, followed by a tidal wave which engulfed and flooded all the continents of the world.

Geological proofs of the change in the position of the North Pole, and the flooding of the world by a diluvial tidal wave will appear in the Chinese edition of my book, which I expect to see published at the end of this month.

Owing to business engagements, I very much regret that the English edition of my supplementary work, "Proof of the Deluge," cannot be published at the same time.

I have carefully studied the specimen of hieroglyphic writing found by Mrs. Scoresby Routledge, and I find that the construction of these characters is similar to the ancient hieroglyphic script of China.

I firmly believe that these hieroglyphic writings of Easter Island have sprung from the same source as those of China, viz., the hieroglyphic script of Teong Chi. I hope further excavations and investigations will be made in Easter Island, and that the results will help to prove the truth of the Deluge.

I also hope that systematic excavations will be made in the extensive diluvial loess deposits of the different provinces of the Yellow River Valley of China, in which are buried, one thousand feet below its surface, great cities and relics of the Ante-Diluvian Age, which will surprise and astonish the archaeologists and ethnologists of the world, and prove that mankind originated in Chinese Turkestan, and that civilization had its birth in China.—Yours truly,

TSE TSAN TAI

Hongkong, 6th November, 1917.

WEDDING AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

MR. R. G. SOUTHERTON AND MISS E. E. WITCHELL.

The marriage of Mr. R. G. Southerton, of Birkenhead, Cheshire, and Miss Edith Ethel Witchell, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Job Witchell, of the King Edward Hotel, was celebrated at St. John's Cathedral yesterday. The service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Victoria.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of ivory tulle, trimmed with silver and pearls. Mrs. Kenneth Wilson, her sister, acted as matron of honour, and Miss Jessie Jack and Miss Belson were the bridesmaids. The bridesmaids' dresses were of crepe de chine trimmed with silver and blue lace. Mr. T. F. Ford carried out the duties of "best man."

There was a large attendance at the reception which was subsequently held at the King Edward Hotel, and the toast of the bride and bridegroom was honoured with enthusiasm. The presents, which were very generally admired, included a silver tea-service from the guests at the hotel.

Later in the day, Mr. and Mrs. Southerton left for Macao and Amoy, where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's travelling costume consisted of a cream cloth coat and braided skirt.

SERVICES' ENTERTAINMENT FUND.

AN APPEAL FOR FURTHER SUPPORT.

The following statement of accounts of the above fund up to the end of October is submitted by the Rev. C. L. Cooper-Hunt, C.F., the Military Secretary and Treasurer, who also gratefully acknowledges the following subscriptions received during the week ending November 6th:—

Balance at end of September \$1,542.30

Receipts during October 900.00

Total \$2,442.30

Expenditure during October 1,575.28

Balance at end of October \$867.02

W. C. F. 200.00

N. J. Stabb 20.00

A. G. Cuppin 5.00

E. W. Hamilton 5.00

W. A. Dowley 5.00

W. J. Pringle 5.00

W. A. Hannibal 5.00

H. B. L. Dowbiggin 5.00

T. Arthur 5.00

A. H. Skelton 10.00

E. A. M. Williams 10.00

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock 10.00

K. C. 5.00

A. H. Harris 5.00

G. S. 5.00

G. S. 5.00

F. C. Potts 5.00

Total carried forward \$1,300.90

—Monthly subscription—

8—Donation.

The following statistics for October

may be of interest to subscribers:—

Thirteen cuttings by launch and rail

were arranged for Service men

stationed in different parts of the

garrison, including the Navy, the

number of men entertained on each

occasion varying from 40 to 80. A

few small swimming parties have

been provided with refreshments in

addition to the above.

1,782 individual trips on pleasure have

been made from Mt. Austin and

Victoria Barracks, showing a large

increase on last month.

Materials for 13,400 letters have been

supplied throughout the garrison.

This, again, does not include a

large amount of note-paper kindly

supplied at the Men's Club (Seamen's

Institute) by the Missions to

Seamen.

Eighty men were entertained to supper

at the Men's Club. On this occasion

a fine gramophone and records were

kindly lent by the Robinson

Piano Co.

Three grants of a substantial nature

have been made for the purchase of

athletic gear, and one smaller one

in connection with the Garrison

Billiard Tournament at the Soldiers'

Club.

Two Billiard Tournaments at Mt.

Austin and the Men's Club drew a

total entry of 114, table fees at the

Men's Club and the two first prizes

being provided by the fund.

Two Tennis Tournaments produced an

entry of 76, and in connection with

garrison tennis generally two courts

have been repaired, racquets re-

stronged, and straw sandals (suitable

for hard courts) provided.

Two Quoits Tournaments have been

arranged, providing amusement for

the 110 men who entered. Two

sets of quoits have been supplied by

the fund.

The "At Homes" to Service men on

Sunday afternoons at the Sailors' and

Soldiers' Home from 4 to 5.30

p.m. have been attended by 854 men.

Two concerts with refreshments and

"smokes" have been arranged at

Mt. Austin.

In publishing the above it is necessary

to call attention to the fact that whereas

the expenditure during October was

\$1,575.28, the receipts for the same month

were only \$900.00. This fact, though an

eloquent testimony to the increasing

popularity of the fund so far as the

Services are concerned, means that unless

its usefulness is to be curtailed a further

appeal to the generosity of the Hongkong

public is necessary. The original estimate

of \$300 a month appears now to be con-

siderably below the mark, even though

certain items in last month's expenditure

are non-recurring, and possibly the

winter months may see a diminution in

the number of the somewhat expensive

launch outings.

There is no desire on the part of the

Committee to allow a large balance to

accumulate, but it is felt to be expedient

to have at least one month's supply in

reserve. The money is being spent as

carefully and at the same time as

generously as possible, the aim of the

Committee being to bring the whole

garrison equally under the benefits of the

fund.

Many expressions of grateful appreciation

are continually being received by the

Treasurer, who wishes, through the

medium of this report to pass them on

to the monthly subscribers and donors,

to whose generosity the flourishing condition

of the fund up to the present is

solely due.

C. L. COOPER-HUNT, C.F. (Treasurer).

Hongkong, 6th November, 1917.

V. C. AIRMAN'S ESCAPE FROM GERMANY AT THIRD ATTEMPT.

Second Lieutenant G. B. M. Inall, V.C., of the Royal Flying Corps, who recently escaped from Germany after being a prisoner for more than 18 months, has arrived in London.

The successful attempt to get away from captivity was the third he had made. The earlier efforts ended in discovery and rigorous punishment. He was also one of the officers placed for the purpose of "prisoners" in German towns threatened with Allied air attacks.

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

A meeting of the Referees' Board was held in Victoria Barracks on Monday evening to examine candidates. The following passed the oral test, and arrangements will be made for them to be tested practically:—Mr. Pugh and 1st Class P.O. Tucker, R.N.

An enquiry into the abandoned 88th Co. v. 87th Co. match was held, and the decision of the Board, which was presided over by Major W. P. Hammond, will be put before a meeting of the League which is being held on Monday next, for confirmation or alteration.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

HONGKONG LEAGUE—DIVISION I.

Royal Engineers v. Middlesex Regt.

Club Ground. Kick-off, 4.30 p.m.

DIVISION II.

Staff and Departments v. 87th Co.

R.G.A.—Navy Ground. Kick-off, 4.30 p.m.

TENNIS.

CIVIL SERVICE v. 25th MIDDLESEX.

This match at Happy Valley resulted in an easy win for the home team by 84 games to 14. The Military side was not at full strength. Scores:—

R. C. Witell and B. W. Bradbury beat Sergt. Parkin and Dmr. Coan, 11-0; beat Loc. Cpl. McKennie and Pte. Ross, 10-1; beat Loc. Cpl. Watts and Loc. Cpl. Tebbutt, 8-2.

Dr. Woodman and J. R. Wood beat Parkin and Coan, 7-4; beat McKennie and Ross, 8-3; beat Watts and Tebbutt, 10-1.

E. Abraham and J. Deakin beat Parkin and Coan, 11-0; beat McKennie and Ross, 10-1; beat Watts and Tebbutt, 8-3.

BILLIARDS.

VOLUNTEER CUP.

The 87th Company gained a few more points in the final of this tournament on Monday evening, at the Soldiers' Club. At the close of play they were 98 points ahead with three more games to play. Scores:—

87th Co. N.G.A. 87th Co. N.G.A.

Cpl. Gillard, 145 Cpl. Small, 300

Sgt. Davis, 193 Br. Southall, 500

Sgt. Davis, 200 C.S.M. Heath, 103

The following is the result of the draw for the first round of the Soldiers' Club Tournament which takes place on the conclusion of the present competition:—

87th Co. R.G.A. v. 83rd Co. R.G.A.

87th Co. R.G.A. v. Middlesex Regt.

Garrison M.P. v. "A" H.K.D.C.

H.K.P.R. 3 and 4 P. v. Royal Navy.

"B" Co. H.K.D.C. v. R.A.M.C.

R.E. v. H.K.P.R. 5 and 6 P.

A.S.C. v. Dockyard D.C.

H.K.P. and Warders v. Sergeants' Mess

H.K.D.C.

UNION CHURCH WORKING PARTY.

The Ladies' Working Party of Union Church has this month dispatched a case to Colonel Gordon Hall, Cairo, Egypt, containing:—500 rolled bandages, 47 many oil bandages, 54 eye-bandages, 16 bed-jackets, 8 vests, 42 suits of pyjamas, 15 shirts, 15 handkerchiefs, 16 surgical caps, 18 milk covers, 12 pairs of bed-socks, 23 white wool caps, 15 scrubbers, games and puzzles and sweets.

The following letter has been received:—

Red Cross Depot, Bombay,

1st November, 1917.

DEAR MRS. HICKLING,—I am in receipt of your letter of 5th September, and have to thank you for advising that you have packed and despatched a case of gifts for the use of the Red Cross work in India, the work of which has been done by the ladies of Union Church, who I note, are specially interested in Scottish soldiers.

With regard to the list of articles given in your letter, which you sent for your further information I enclose a list of articles all of which are most useful and continually being supplied for hospitals. This list, you will find, is a rather long one, but it is sent with the idea that you might pick out from it such articles as are most suitable in accordance with materials which you have available.

On behalf of the Red Cross I shall be glad if you will convey their thanks to the ladies of the Union Church, Hongkong, for their kindness in sending us this case of gifts, which are most useful and will be much appreciated by the sick and wounded.

Owing to the heavy losses caused by the submarines, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain our supplies from the United Kingdom, so that any help you are able to give us will be warmly accepted.

The present season is the start of our cold weather, and therefore all articles you send should be made of warm materials up to the end of February; after that date our hot weather starts, and then we supply for the use of hospitals light materials.

I shall be glad in future consignments you are sending if you will state the approximate value for Customs purposes, as, although we receive consignments duty free, it is necessary that we state the value. On receipt of the above-mentioned case an official acknowledgment will be sent after the contents have been checked.

If there is any information I can give you at any time please let me know. Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) A. L. DAVIES, Major,

Hon. Supt., Red Cross Depot.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

A ROGUE OR A FOOL?

A coolie was charged with picking a purse out of the pocket of a Chinese school-boy at Bonham Strand.

It was stated that a Chinese detective caught the prisoner red-handed.

The defendant alleged that he saw the purse lying in the street and was picking it up when he was arrested.

During the course of his evidence, the defendant looked such a simpleton that Mr. Dyer Ball said he must either be a rogue or a fool, and he gave him the benefit of the doubt and discharged him.

CHINESE LUMMAGING IN THE STORE-ROOM OF A MAN O' WAR.

A Chinese was charged by Petty Officer Ed. Barry, of H.M.S. —, with stealing a straw hat.

It was stated that the defendant was found in the store-room of the ship holding the hat in his hand and rummaging amongst the brass odds and ends in the room. Defendant had no reason to be in the store-room, and there were strict orders against any unauthorised persons being in the room without permission.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced the defendant to six weeks' hard labour.

DRIVING A TRUCK RECKLESSLY.

A truck coolie was charged with driving his truck recklessly in Queen's Road East between Kennedy Road and Wanchai Market.

Inspector Sim stated that at about 7 o'clock that morning as he was riding his bicycle along Queen's Road East he saw the truck rushing down the incline at a great pace, very little effort having been made to slow down its speed. The truck turned to the right and stopped with a sudden impact on a side channel near the market. The truck contained 80 baskets of earth and the shock of the sudden stop overturned nearly half of them. He considered it was very dangerous for the public that trucks should be driven about in that reckless manner.

A fine of \$10, with the alternative of 14 days' imprisonment, was imposed.

STOREKEEPER'S THEFT FROM THE DAIRY FARM.

A Chinese storekeeper at the Dairy Farm at Pokfulam was charged by Mr. A. Stevenson, assistant manager of the Hongkong Dairy Farm, with the theft of a quantity of liver and lard from the Company's store.

Defendant pleaded guilty. He said he thought that it would not matter if he took only just a little for his food as he was the storekeeper.

Mr. Stevenson stated the defendant had been suspected of having been connected with the frequent losses of small quantities of the stores. A watch was set, and the result was that the defendant was arrested by a watchman with the stuff concealed under his jacket.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced the defendant to six weeks' hard labour.

OPIUM PROSECUTION.

A Chinese was charged with the illegal possession of 16 taels of prepared opium other than Government opium, and 12 taels of opium dross, whereas only two taels were allowed.

Defendant pleaded that he was only a coolie, and that the parcel in which the opium was found was given him to look after. He did not know what it contained.

It was stated that the defendant was pointed out to an excise officer on board the s.s. *Fatshan* on Monday. At the time he was sleeping on the deck covered from head to foot with a blanket. He was searched and the opium was found tied up in a parcel which he was using as a pillow.

Mr. J. R. Wood imposed a fine of \$1,000, with the alternative of six months' hard labour, on the first charge, and \$100, or one month's hard labour, on the second charge.

ALLEGED UNFAITHFUL STEWARD-SHIP.

A Chinese accountant was charged, on remand, with stealing groceries, furniture, etc., to the value of \$800 from his employers, the Kwong On Cheong firm, Berkeley Street, Hongkong.

Mr. Grist appeared for the defence. Mr. Davidson, who prosecuted, stated that he had been instructed to add another charge, that of embezzling \$100. The complainant, he said, was the managing partner of the firm Kwong On Cheong, and was in sole charge of the business. The defendant was engaged as accountant to the firm. On the 17th September, the complainant had occasion to go to the country, and left defendant in sole charge of the shop. On his return, after an absence of nearly three weeks, he found the shop closed and everything gone. The premises were in possession of other people. About ten days ago he saw defendant in the street, and followed him to his residence, in Heclamation Street, Yau-mattee. He then informed the Police, who arrested the defendant.

After evidence had been heard, the case was again adjourned.

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THE WAR.

THE CAMPAIGN IN PALESTINE.

DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHTING.

RUSSIAN SUCCESS IN THE CAUCASUS.

THE ITALIAN SITUATION.

ARRIVAL OF ANGLO-FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

SLIGHT ADVANCE.

LONDON, November 5th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Slightly advanced our posts southeastward of Poelcapelle and repulsed a bombing attack westward of Beclera.

There was great hostile artillery activity northward of the Ypres-Boulers railway, and our artillery activity continues.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, November 5th.

A wireless German official report states that there was a powerful destructive fire in the Yser lowland and in the region between Houthulst Wood and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

SUCCESSFUL RAIDS.

LONDON, November 5th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Yesterday's raid at Gavrelle resulted in our capturing fourteen prisoners, four machine-guns and two trench-mortars.

Nearly one hundred Germans were killed. All the dugouts were destroyed and set on fire.

The Shorwood Foresters last night raided north-eastward of Loos, capturing a few and killing a number.

Our casualties were light.

Our first dispersed hostile reconnoiters in the neighbourhoods of Hollebeke and Reutel.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

ARTILLERY DUEL.

PARIS, November 5th.

A communiqué states that there is a fairly lively artillery duel in the region of Corbeet.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE NAVAL EXPLOIT IN THE KATTEGAT.

GERMANY ADMITS LOSS OF AUXILIARY CRUISER.

LONDON, November 5th.

A Berlin official statement admits that a British Naval force sank an auxiliary cruiser on November 2nd in the Kattegat, but denies that any patrol-boats were sunk.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIAN FRONT.

VIOLENT ENEMY ARTILLERY ATTACK.

LONDON, November 5th.

A wireless Russian official report states there is violent enemy artillery firing westward of Sventen Lake.

TURKISH TRENCHES CAPTURED.

LONDON, November 5th.

A wireless Russian official report states:—We attacked the Turks in the Kalkit sector of the Black Sea front, capturing first-line trenches, and in some places the third line.

We secured a great quantity of booty.

Egypt.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE OPERATIONS AT GAZA.

TOTAL PRISONERS.

LONDON, November 5th.

An official report from Egypt states:—The Gaza operations continue. We are in contact with the enemy northward of Beersheba. The prisoners captured in these operations now total 507 officers and 5,429 men.

ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHTING.

Reuter's Correspondent at the Egyptian Headquarters, telegraphing on the 2nd inst., states:—Following up our success against the extreme Turkish right, we engaged the left flank on the 1st inst., capturing all our objectives, including strong trench systems and edoubts. The line was subjected to a preliminary drumfire, at night-time attaining an unprecedented intensity at Umbrella Hill, south-west of Gaza, a strong position 500 yards from our lines. Consequently, our troops gained the hill with few casualties, although the enemy was not subjected to such artillerying between Umbrella Hill and the seashore. The troops that secured all the objectives were assisted by several tanks, which, despite the shifty sand-dunes, advanced over entanglements, parapets, and trenches in the moonlight, which exaggerated their uncomeliness and fearfulness, and contributed greatly to the capture of the El Arish redoubt, and also Beach Post, the latter being heaped with corpses. The Turks have shown the most stubborn spirit, clinging to their positions to the last. An example is related of a single machine-gunner, who was surrounded, refusing to yield, and when last reported he was still hanging on.

The airmen have been a conspicuous success, silencing the guns with bombs and co-operating with the artillery most satisfactorily. Two enemy guns caught in the open yesterday by our heavies were, with their crews, demolished.

The Naval co-operation likewise was most helpful. Several monitors and destroyers are before Gaza, their accurate fire enlivened a good part of the enemy lines, and they successfully bombarded the Turkish communications, severely damaging a bridge over the Wadyhesi.

The participation of a detachment of Italians in yesterday's fighting is worthy of mention, for the great gallantry they displayed.

EXTENT OF OUR ADVANCE.

LATER.

The Correspondent on the 3rd inst. reported:—Yesterday's advance reached a depth of 800 yards at Umbrella Hill on the right flank and 2,000 yards at Sheikh Hassan, on the seashore west of Gaza.

The Scottish and East Anglian troops shared in the honours of the fighting.

Four enemy counter-attacks yesterday were repulsed with heavy losses.

All our gains were maintained and the new positions consolidated.

On our right the enemy was dislodged from Aburigeig station, eight miles north-west of Beersheba, and he retreated precipitately.

The Turkish communications in the rear of their right flank suffered severely from the fire of our heavy artillery and naval guns.

DISORDERLY PEACE MEETING.

LONDON, November 5th.

A peace meeting at Swansea was broken up, the crowd invading the platform and expelling Mr. Roden Buxton and other speakers.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

ENEMY PRESSING ITALIAN LEFT WING.

NEW YORK, November 5th.

The Associated Press Correspondent at the Italian Headquarters reports:—The enemy is chiefly pressing our left wing in an endeavour to throw his bulk on the Tagliamento, develop the turning movement, and overrun western Friuli before General Cadorna is reorganised.

The situation now hinges on the strength of the successive lines of natural defences west of the Tagliamento and the speed with which the reorganisation can be effected in order to throw the whole weight with the Allied reinforcements upon the advancing enemy.

The natural defences of the western region are strong, and the country is described as the "Holland of Italy," owing to the network of canals and rivers, mostly running straight across the line of the enemy's advance.

"The French troops were enthusiastically welcomed, and the presence of the Anglo-French has brought inspiration to the Italian ranks."

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY CROSS THE TAGLIAMENTO.

LONDON, November 5th.

An Italian official report states:—The enemy reached the right bank of the Tagliamento, northward of Pinzano, thus intensifying the pressure against our left wing.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, November 5th.

A wireless German official report states:—The Austro-Germans gained a crossing over the middle of the Tagliamento, and are advancing towards the west.

They captured 8,000 prisoners and a number of guns.

ITALIANS WELCOME BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS.

LONDON, November 5th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Italian Headquarters, telegraphing on the 4th inst., states:—The passage of British contingents to the front has been the occasion for touching manifestations of welcome and friendliness. Men and women of all classes flocked to the stations, offering fruit, cigarettes and flowers to the tired men, who responded gratefully and left an impression of cheerfulness and vitality which encouraged the onlookers.

The demonstrations assumed greater proportions along the country roads, the inhabitants everywhere rushing to greet them and were much impressed by their stalwart forms. There were continuous shouts of "Viva l'Inghilterra!"

NAVAL ACTION KEY TO WHOLE SITUATION.

NEW YORK, November 5th.

The Associated Press Correspondent at Italian Headquarters states that the retreat of the Army has produced new conditions which may make a naval action the key to the whole situation.

The Italian Fleet commanded Abuzzi by a brilliant manoeuvre and seized a naval strategic point at Grado and the vast lagoon whose entrance it guards. The fleet commands the whole Gulf of Trieste front for forty kilometres to Monfalcone, five miles from Trieste.

The enemy's advance has brought him along a considerable stretch of the coast of the gulf. Hence the possibilities of a naval action which may be realised. It is significant that there has been intense naval activity in the Gulf of Trieste recently.

NAVAL EXPERTS URGE SPEEDY ACTION IN ADRIATIC.

PARIS, November 5th.

Naval experts urge speedy and vigorous action in the Adriatic. They declare that seaplanes could compel the Austrian fleet to leave the harbours, thus enabling the Allied Fleet to strike a decisive blow.

The Balkans.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BALKANS FRONT.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, November 5th.

A wireless German official report states:—The English battalions attacking southward of St. Jacobo, between the Vardar and Lake Doiran, heavily collapsed.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

UGANDA GOVERNORSHIP.

LONDON, November 5th.

Mr. Robert Thorne Coryndon, C.M.G., Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, has been appointed Governor of Uganda.

EARLIER CABLES.

AUSTRO-GERMAN PROPAGANDA IN ITALY.

LONDON, November 5th.

The question of Austro-German propaganda in Italy, which, it is alleged, has been strong in the happenings on the Italian Front, was raised in the House of Commons.

Col. Yate asked:—What steps are the Government taking to deny the Austro-German falsehoods regarding Great Britain which are being disseminated amongst the Italian troops by Austro-German agents, and by means of a special propaganda of bombs, or by being dropped from aeroplanes?

Mr. Macpherson replied:—The Italian military authorities are being asked to supply the British Government with copies of this propaganda. The best means for defeating the objects of the propaganda have been considered, but I cannot promise that the means selected will be published.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

THE FIRST CASUALTIES OF THE WAR.

WASHINGTON, November 5th.

General Pershing reports as follows:—Three American soldiers were killed, five wounded, and twelve captured on Saturday, when the Germans raided the instruction salient before daylight, putting down a heavy barrage and cutting off the salient.

The enemy's losses are unknown. One wounded German was captured.

THE ALLIED PARIS CONFERENCE.

LONDON, November 5th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. A. J. Balfour stated that he hoped the Allied Conference in Paris on the conduct of the war would be held about the middle of November. He could not at present give any information regarding the Conference on War-Aims.

NORWAY'S MARITIME LOSSES.

LONDON, November 5th.

A Norwegian official statement contains:—Nineteen Norwegian merchantmen, aggregating 34,677 tons, were lost during October, and 48 Norwegian seamen were killed.

FUTURE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

COMPLETE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHED.

LONDON, November 5th.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the conference held in London last week were among the most important during the war. M. Painleve and General Petain daily conferred with Mr. Lloyd George and the War Cabinet, and a complete identity of views was established regarding the situation arising from the Italian position, and also regarding the future conduct of the war.

BRITISH NAVAL PROGRESS.

PARIS, November 5th.

Le Temps naval expert, who visited the British shipyards, says he saw in the Fairfield yards at Glasgow warships far bigger than the Queen Elizabeth.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

LUK WING-TING'S POWER CANCELLED.

PEKING, November 6th.

The Ministers held a meeting at the Premier's residence and decided to dismiss Tam Ho-ming (Kwangsi Tschun) and cancel Luk Wing-ting's military power.

General Lung Chai-kwong has wired to Peking demanding the dismissal of Lam Fu (a commander in Canton). The Government has paid 500,000 dollars to Szechuen for military expenditure.

Representatives of Chang Hui-yu and Fong Shing-to (Commanders of Yun-nanese troops) have arrived at Peking. Luk Wing-ting has wired to the President demanding two conditions. The President and Premier discussed the question yesterday.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, November 6th.

A TIME-LIMIT. Owing to reports stating that General Luk Wing-ting will not come to Canton, the leaders of King-Wai troops, who had requested General Luk to transfer the Tschun, have again wired to Luk asking him to come to Canton within five days.

A RUMOUR. Someone with about 20 armed bodyguards left Canton by a motor-car yesterday. It is rumoured that it was the Tschun who went to Wuchow to meet the General, but the rumour is unconfirmed.

THE OFFICE OF TUCHUN. The Civil Governor, Li Yew-hon, Admiral Ching Pih-kwong and the Tschun, Chao Ping-kwan, propose to go together to Wuchow. They will consult with General Luk upon the question of the Tschunship.

PROTECTION FOR THE SHAMEEN.

It is said that a few hundred Indian soldiers have recently arrived at Shameen to afford protection to the residents.

The Civil Governor, Li Yew-hon, entertained various Consuls to-day and assured them that he was responsible for the protection of foreigners in the Province.

MESSAGES FROM SWATOW state that Mok King-yu, who learnt that Admiral Ching Pih-kwong will command the 1st Squadron to attack him, has requested the Fukien Tschun to send him naval assistance. The Tschun has agreed and four gunboats have been sent already.

It is also stated that a railway for military purposes has recently been under construction, and that the line from Swatow to Cheong-chow, near Amoy, is nearly finished.

GERMANS AND BELGIUM.

AN INSULT TO SWITZERLAND.

Switzerland has been excluded from relief work in Belgium by a pro-German intrigue. All the Powers signified assent to Switzerland's offer to undertake the duty. Accordingly, the Swiss Government designated Madame Chapuis, a member of the Legislative Assembly of the Canton of Geneva, and M. Meyenburg, of Schaffhausen, as Swiss Commissioners in Belgium. Their departure was fixed for June 1st. Suddenly, however, on May 28th, the German Governor-General of Belgium telegraphed to the Swiss Government that there had been some misunderstanding, and that the Swiss Commissioners could not be received in Belgium. This communication, which was in itself an affront to Switzerland, inasmuch as it ought to have been communicated by the German Foreign Office through the ordinary diplomatic channels, was followed by communications from Spain and Holland declaring that they could not accept the co-operation of Switzerland in Belgian relief work. The Swiss Government thereupon referred to the formal notice received from both Holland and Spain assenting to the appointment of Swiss Commissioners to replace the American Commissioners. Spain and Holland then explained that when they gave their assent to the appointment of the Swiss Commissioners they had done so under the influence of America. But that since America had abandoned neutrality Spain and Holland alone were entitled to decide how relief work in Belgium should be conducted, and they have decided to exclude Switzerland from it.

It would appear that the Germans regarded these two Swiss Commissioners as too independent and too fearless, and that hence their presence in Belgium would have been a perpetual embarrassment to the German persecutors of Belgium.—Wireless Press.

THE TAXICAB BATTLE.

VON KLUCK'S WIRELESS TAPPED.

In the third anniversary week of the Battle of the Marne General Clergerie, then Chief of Staff to General Gallieni, recalled some crucial events that turned the tide of the war. To begin with, the Eiffel Tower played a useful part, and those who never admired the 300-metre iron monument are now reconciled to it. The German commanders, apparently under the delusion that the French were too stupid to know anything about wireless, used the latter constantly in communication among themselves. All these messages were tapped by the Eiffel Tower and, when necessary, decoded, but half the time the Germans did not even take the trouble to use cypher. Thus among other interesting pieces of information General Clergerie learned that General von Marwitz, commanding the cavalry in Von Kluck's army, informed Von Kluck that his men and horses were spent and could not move for two days, that the men fell asleep with exhaustion on their saddles, and that nearly all the horses wanted re-shoeing. Another useful message tapped by the Eiffel Tower was one on September 6th from Von Kluck himself saying that he was retiring with his First Army, and in fact telling the other army commanders bluntly: "You must hurry up, I am clearing out."

General Clergerie also gives the first authentic account of the historic taxicab day of September 7th. A new division arrived that day to join the Paris army, but how to get it out to the front nearly forty miles away in time. Railway transport, it was found, could carry only 6,000 men. How were the remaining 9,000 to be got out? Clergerie had an inspiration, and decided to risk using taxicabs. Gallieni approved. Clergerie had wanted 600. Each taxi could carry five men, and thus in two journeys 600 could bring 4,000 men to the front. They must be ready by six p.m. A requisition order was sent out at five p.m. The news spread like wildfire in the taxicab depots, and, as General Clergerie says, it was a curious sight to see many chauffeurs driving fares in the Paris streets suddenly stop on hearing of the order, turn the fare out, and start off at once "to go into battle," and by 6 p.m. the 600 taxis stood ready at Gagny just outside Paris. They were inspected by Gallieni. Two routes, going and coming for the double journey were mapped out at intervals in the procession, and stores were also placed at points along the road. The taxis, each carrying five men, started twenty yards behind one another, and in two journeys the 9,000 taxis had brought 6,000 men by daybreak on September 8th ready to go into the Battle of the Ourcq and win it, which they did.

LABOUR AND FOOD.

OUTSTING THE PROFITEER.

[FROM "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, made a clear statement of the policy of Lord Rhonda to the delegates of the Trades Union Congress at Blackpool. The difficulties which confront Lord Rhonda in the regulation of food prices, and the limitation of profits, are many and complex. There are delegates attending the Congress who seem to think that a solution for all those complex difficulties can be found in a glib phrase. They have simply to denounce the profiteer and propose that the State commandeer all the food supplies of the country and retail them to the public. Mr. Clynes proved that the solution of this problem is not to be reached in that way. The wholesale and retail trade is a vast organisation employing hundreds of thousands of persons in all sorts of capacities, and it is impossible for the State to set up, as it were, by some magician's wand, a new avenue of trade which will supersede all the existing machinery. What the Food Controller is doing is wisely to utilise all the existing agencies, and to control the amount of profit which they earn in performing an essential work between the producer and the consumer. Mr. Clynes explained that the Food Control Department did not want so much to fix the prices of commodities as the profit which any person can make out of the business. It is impossible for any Food Controller to fix the price of wheat in Japan or of wheat or meat in the Argentine, and it is beyond his power to say to what extent prices of imported products will be disturbed by a boat which is certain to be sunk. But there are certain things which can be done, and Mr. Clynes showed that those things are being effectually accomplished by the Food Control Department. It can, and is, preventing competitive buying among the Allied countries. A change has now been made, and a system of co-operative buying substituted. Further, the Ministry has already made an arrangement by which an end has been put to the foolish competition between those who have to buy supplies for the Army, and those who have to go into the markets of the world to buy supplies for the civil population. Practically the whole mercantile fleet of the country has been requisitioned by the State, and any profits in excess of the fixed amount now automatically into the Treasury. These are real improvements in our commercial methods, and will put an end to anything in the way of war profiteering.

"TEDDIES."

The American soldiers realised the minute they set foot in these islands that sooner or later a nickname would be found for them. What they were to be called not one of them could guess, but immediately they mingled with the British "Tommys" their title was not long in doubt. The "Teddies" is the name our soldiers have chosen for their new allies, and they would have had difficulty in finding one more appropriate for it is to its "sporting ex-President" that the American army always turns.

"ASAHI BEER."



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A MENDER OF HEARTS

The first troop train of the day from the Metropolis was almost due, and I had hurried down to London-road Station to greet a pal expected home on his first leave from France. Just ahead of me on the platform I espied a familiar figure, a lady in the garb of a Mission Sister, one who, since pre-war days, has not taken life in Australia and, as in Zion, to tell in a crowded city area, there to work for the souls of men and women who are "home sick for Hell," as one of their critics has said.

"Hello, Sister! Are you expecting the return of a Lost Sheep by rail?" I queried, in the flippant tone of the fool who rushes in where angels tread very softly. "Not a lost sheep; shall we say a wounded lamb?" replied the Sister, gently and, to my surprise, I noticed that there was a quiver in her voice and that her cheeks were very pale.

"I am expecting a girl up from Essex—a wife of six months, a widow of less than six hours," she explained. "The girl's husband, a fine stalwart Grenadier, has just died in a local military hospital. The authorities sent her a wire yesterday to say his condition was very serious. This morning he passed away, crying out for his 'bonnie Mary.' We mended broken bodies here sometimes, Sister, but not breaking hearts; that's your job," said the hospital surgeon to me as we left the bedside. So I am here to comfort the girl who doesn't know yet that, for her at any rate, the bottom of the world has fallen out."

Since the war started I have met nearly 600 women who have come to Manchester on a similar errand. No! Not all widowed, thank God. But women wives, mothers, sisters, sweethearts, who are hesitating in fear and trembling to the bedside of some soldier they love. "We feel so helpless when we get here, Sister," said one, a lonely old fisher-wife from the west of Ireland. "We can only hope, and pray."

"I want you to imagine the condition of many of these poor people when they reached this city," continued this Mender of Breaking Hearts. "Many of them come from far distant towns and villages. Two or three I have met—old people—have never undertaken a railway journey in their lives before. Now they rush to meet 'Sister' at the end of it, as one bereaved mother said the other day. The shock of the summons, the haste to get ready, the confusion and anxiety throughout the journey, their arrival and the night and sounds of a strange city, all continue to make their plight pitiable."

"Fortunately, I have a splendid organisation behind me, and thus I am able to hear of their coming, to meet them at the station, to accompany them to the hospitals, to provide homes for them during their stay in Manchester, and to 'mother' them a bit when they need it most. But the work wears the heart out, and I feel that mine is growing very, very old."

"What is it that keeps me going? Well, let me ask you a question. What is it, do you think, that keeps most of us women from utter despair during these dark days? You men may not understand—I do not know—but the only panacea I can find at a time like this is the Everlasting Hope. No, I am not going to preach to you; but may I tell you a story?"

"A few months ago I stood at the grave-side of a soldier—a Highlander—whose mother had travelled from the far north of Scotland, and reached this city too late to see her boy alive. He had been badly wounded in the Mametz Wood encounter, and had been brought to Manchester—to die."

"I have never seen such a picture of loneliness as I did the day the soldier was buried and I caught a glimpse of that poor old woman, standing there in the Southern Cemetery, strangely clad, lost in the billows of her own great sorrow. But when I bade her 'Good-bye' the next day she suddenly thrust out a lean withered hand from the carriage window, and in a voice tense with inward conviction said, 'My Foot is not there! Sister! My Foot is not there!'"

"She was thinking, brave soul, of the soldier's grave she was leaving behind her in this city and, believe me, when we women think of other graves—in France, Flanders, Gallipoli, or elsewhere—the only thing that keeps the chords of the heart from snapping is the sure and certain hope that Tom, or Dick, or Bill as the case may be, is not there. But here's the train in now. Good-bye."

And as I left the platform arm-in-arm with my "pal," I caught a glimpse of these two—the girl-widow and the Mender of Breaking Hearts—and felt that the place upon which they were standing just then was holy ground.

POSITION IN GREECE.

THE NEW REGIME.

M. VENIZELOS' POWER.

[By G. J. STEVENS.]

Since the return of M. Venizelos the situation in Greece has, from the Allies' point of view, considerably improved, but it would not be in conformity with facts to state that the disastrous effects of the eighteen months' personal rule of the ex-King, and the well-organised—and even better subsidised—German party, have been uprooted and wiped out. For the average English reader to understand the situation as it now exists, one must give a retrospective picture of the state in which it was left by the ex-King. Let me first make it clear that in speaking of Greece I mean that part of the country which had remained loyal to the suppressed régime, for in the islands and in the parts of Continental Greece which had voluntarily seceded and joined the movement of M. Venizelos, hardly any friends of the ex-King and of Germany remain, more especially in the islands of Crete, Mytilene, Chios, and Samos, or among the Greek element in Macedonia.

M. Venizelos, in many of his speeches, made the charge against the ex-King that he deliberately sought to demoralise, pervert, and destroy the patriotism of his people; and this is perfectly true. What is more to the point is that he succeeded to a considerable extent in doing it. The average Greek, until the expulsion took place, was willing to accept the view that the ex-King was a martyr, who preferred to sacrifice himself rather than lead the nation to destruction and ruin. I will quote a conversation I had once with a shepherd as characteristic of the feelings prevailing among his class. I asked him why they appeared to be so fond of their King. "Because," he replied, "he it is who protects us, and if he goes we shall again be called upon to leave our homes, our lands, and belongings for the war and be killed."

INTERESTED PATRIOTISM.

Although patriotic in a sense, the Greeks are primarily self-interested. During the first two years of the war brought them riches, first by the great expansion of their trade, and afterwards through the influx of Allied and Teuton money into the country. On the one hand, they had their King, who was telling them, "Do not fight, but thrive," and on the other M. Venizelos, who called for sacrifices. Gradually self-interest got the best of patriotism, and it is no wonder that the King gained ground at the expense of the statesman. Admirably served by the German propaganda and a mercenary press, the average Greek became restless and led a willing ear to all the distorted facts and deliberate lies with which the King and his clique sought to justify their attitude and policy. British and French prestige, until the first coercive measures were taken by the Allies, was still very great; but when each successive measure taken led to none of the calamities which he feared, the average man began to believe that the King was strong enough to defy even England and France. It tickled his fancy and enhanced his own importance to think that small Greece could flout the Powers which he had been accustomed to look up to with awe and respect. When King Constantine, taking advantage of several of our mistakes, exploited this sentiment, the Greek was willing to follow up the adventure of December 1st, thinking that the apparent immunity enjoyed by the King allowed the latter to go to the length of openly insulting our flags and killing our marines without fear of grievous consequences. The prolonged blockade which followed, and the misery it brought in its train through the enhancement of prices, the scarcity of foodstuffs, and the stoppage of trade, disillusioned him of this belief, tired him out, and made him ready to investigate the lies with which he was being deceived. He was found willing to let the King go, as one allows a sick limb to be cut off. Shamed, demoralised, and almost humiliated, he is now turning to M. Venizelos as the drowning man clutches at a raft which can save his life.

It is at such a psychological moment that M. Venizelos found the masses of the population in Old Greece. He is now trying to re-educate his fellow-countrymen, raise their fallen spirits, and impress upon them that to regain prosperity and respect the people must help to rebuild the ruins left by the suppressed régime. The great prestige and influence he exercises promise success. Already a great change is noticeable. Whereas previous to the expulsion of the King the result of an election in Old Greece would have been doubtful, it would not be so today. Besides the man, however, there is the Germanophile, who would be called here the party man—who remains irreconcilable. Political parties in the sense we understand them, do not exist in Greece. Personalities take the place of political ideals and principles, and herein lies a great danger in the present situation in Greece. If M. Venizelos were to disappear chaos would ensue. Among his followers there are capable men, like M. Repoulis, and the young but very promising M. Michalopoulos, who could continue his work, but the absence of any defined party organisation in M. Venizelos' following, and the personal jealousies which would inevitably break out in its midst with his disappearance, would split it up into several parts, and thus leave it not only leaderless but also without any common opponents. It would be the chance for the pro-Germans to agitate and clamour for the return of the ex-King, and for a recommitment of previous intrigues, methods, and policy. I have mentioned above that M. Venizelos is gradually gaining the average Greek over to his side, but this does not include the pro-German, who remains pro-German, and continues to be an adherent of the ex-King. This element still comprises a good many of the officers, and non-commissioned officers of the army, the members who remained behind of the former Palace clique, a good number of the secondary agents of the German propaganda, a large section of the Athenian

bourgeoisie, which complacently styles itself the "aristocracy," but whose lineage can easily be traced to very matter-of-fact commoners, and the several thousands who have lost their rich emoluments and comfortable billets by the change of régime. What makes this group dangerous, should anything happen to M. Venizelos, is its organisation, which up to my departure from Athens a short time ago had not been allowed to lose its efficiency. It is the heirloom left by its German mentors.

POSITION OF THE THRONE.

I have said nothing yet about the new King, but I am afraid there is very little that can be said about him, except that he keeps to his summer palace at Tatoi, and beyond his visit to the Chamber of Deputies to take the oath to the Constitution he has made no other public appearance anywhere. A feature of the Royal family of Greece is the solidarity and clanish affection binding the members to one another, and the present occupant of the throne makes no exception to this rule. He remains devoted to his parents. When his father, on the day he was deposed, communicated to him that he designated him as his successor he violently protested, and has since shown no liking for his office. He is very young and inexperienced. His first reception of M. Venizelos was very cold and formal, but relations have since improved. His selection as successor, to his father, has not pleased the Royalists, and they continue to regard him as the *faux témoin* of the throne, until the time, which they firmly believe is bound to come, when the ex-King can be reinstated. As he himself is not opposed to this view, and appears even willing to help them to attain it, his relations with them are cordial and friendly. Nearly all the followers of M. Venizelos, and he himself, towards the climax, wished for a Republic. They were, however, obliged to accept the solution given by the Powers. The Venizelists still wish for a republic, but M. Venizelos himself, since his acceptance of the solution, is inclined to give a fair chance to King Alexander to keep his throne. Just before I left, talking on this subject, he said to me: "Let the King remain. His office is useful as a lubricant to the Constitutional machine when it gets rusty."

M. Venizelos has tried to conciliate the officers of the ex-King to the new order of things established in the country, the one great aim to him above all other considerations—being to raise an army of 100,000 men in addition to the army of national defence, which he considers, added to the armies of General Sarrail, can bring to a successful issue the struggle in the Balkans. He had to weed out certain officers holding commands of units as irreconcilable and unreliable. He is trying to avoid turning away others, but I am afraid he will ultimately have to do so. His task to stop the rot in the ex-King's army and to inculcate a new spirit is an uphill one, but difficulties to this great Cretan act as incentives; there is no drawing back with him, and I share his confidence that he will succeed. The army, as he has reorganised and efficiently equipped to meet the requirements of present war conditions, requires material aid, which we and the French have promised, but which we are, I am told, slow in giving. We shall help M. Venizelos to lend us the assistance he is but too anxious to afford, if we do not delay in providing him with the equipment he requires. He has recently called to the colours the untrained classes of 1916 and 1917, but it is useless for him to summon further classes and proceed to a general mobilisation until he has available the necessary uniforms, boots, soldiers' kit, and transport service requirements. The Germanophile opposition threaten non-compliance of the men when general mobilisation is decreed, and they are conducting a campaign to that effect. M. Venizelos is, however, confident, and he is not going to play into their hands by calling out all classes at once.

EFFECT OF THE BLOCKADE.

The eight months' blockade has denuded the country of all reserves of foodstuffs. Profiteering, which in a country of merchants is more accentuated than in others, was left a free field under the previous régime, and prices of all commodities reached phenomenally high levels, bringing misery and almost starvation to the poorer classes. Life in Greece, which was 100 per cent. less costly than in England, is now almost 100 per cent. dearer than it is here today. Those conditions, which weigh heavily on the lower classes, and which sow and maintain unrest, have not been remedied with the return of M. Venizelos. The chief cause is the scarcity of shipping, on which Greece chiefly depends for the movement of produce from one part of the country to another and for its foreign imports. Before the war Greece disposed of more shipping than she needed, but submarine losses, and the utilisation by France of a great number of her ships engaged on the coasting trade, and of cargo boats by England, reduced the shipping to such an extent that when M. Venizelos took up the reins of Government it was utterly inadequate to supply the pressing wants of the country. Since then England has released a certain number of the cargo boats, but the coasting trade is still greatly suffering, with the result that while the produce of the country in certain parts, such as the islands, can be obtained at reasonable prices, in others, as, for example, in Athens, prices have soared to such an extent as to be only within the means of the rich. The revaluating question and the sufferings it imposes on the poorer classes constitute a serious drawback to the work of salvation and reorganisation of the new Administration, and this setback is politically exploited by the Germanophile leaders of the Opposition.

In conclusion, in my view, the situation in Greece to-day need present no anxiety to the Allies. A portion of the efficient force raised by the Provisional Government of Salonika is fighting with the Allied armies in the trenches. In Macedonia it will undoubtedly be reinforced, as soon as the situation gets more settled, by the other portion which M. Venizelos had to bring with him into Old Greece, and if the war continues until next spring Greece will be able to give her quota of sacrifice to the common cause. But, as previously stated, the whole depends on one man—M. Venizelos.—Daily Telegraph.

DODGING "ARCHIE."

THE AIR PILOT'S TRICKS.

[By A WAR PILOT.]

A pilot flying over the lines uses all sorts of tricks to deceive the watchers below.

Under normal circumstances they can tell his height to a few feet, and will show, too, that they know it by the way they send up the bursts of Archie (anti-aircraft gun). Indeed, no matter whether you cross the lines one day at 8,000ft. and another at 10,000ft. and another at 14,000ft., so sure as you get within range there are the six slowly widening rings of smoke at your level—a few feet ahead or behind or all around you. Hun "Archie" are generally grouped in sixes; and though their chief object is barrage and annoyance, men have been brought down by "sighters" and by direct hits at 15,000ft. from one of those fatal sixes.

The "Archie" gunner judges height by measuring the apparent size of the machine's wings as it flies above. He knows every machine at a glance at 10,000 yards distance and farther. He gets plenty of practice. He knows the measurements of every machine and its speed and can allow for it. The Hun "Archie" gunner has reason to be peculiarly efficient—he gets so much practice.

To know how to upset all the fine calculations is the whole art of dodging "Archie."

One way is to alter the apparent size of your wings or to change your speed or vary your height, and dodge hither and thither, no matter how many other things you may have to do at the same time. You can alter your apparent size by flying "one wing down" and so giving a shorter view of your machine. You can "switch-back" up and down a couple of hundred feet at a time and so vary your speed too. You can paint in advance a dark band beneath the tips of your wings—and hope for the best. Or you can suddenly "stall" your machine—that is, hold it up and throttle the engine down for a few moments, opening out again before you start to fall. This will make the next few shots go well ahead. Then you can side-slip a little—not too much, or you will be losing valuable height.

A pilot one day who underwent the horrible experience of being hemmed in by "Archie" almost exhausted every trick before he got away. He was flying along when suddenly the fatal bursts appeared just ahead. This was only normal. He side-slipped a little and "carried on." But immediately there were the bursts just ahead again and a little closer. He had hardly turned off again when they were a fresh lot, behind his tail, sending him bumping and diving all over the place. They had got his range to a hair.

He "stalled" and turned off at right angles to the left—and there were the bursts all round him again and the sharp sting of a wound in his cheek.

Things were getting bad. He doubled round quickly and made a sudden dive—and there were the bursts all round him once more. He "stalled" put one wing down, and side-slipped down 2,000ft. Scarcely had he "stalled" down again when one more group burst round him. All the time blood was pouring down his face. As a last resort he "played hit"—he put the other wing right down and side-slipped sheer 800ft. This he turned into a "spinning nose-dive" and came out 3,000ft. lower. He then flattened out and dived for our lines. For those few moments "Archie" was fooled. Direct afterwards they were at him again. But he was out of range and got away.

"Archie" is "the very devil"—where the gunners get plenty of practice!

INSEPARABLE TWIN BROTHERS.

THINK, ACT AND SHARE ALIKE.

The twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Orland Gaston—Christopher and Clifford Gaston—of Ringmer, Sussex, are renowned for their devotion to one another.

They resemble each other, are inseparable, think and act alike, and have never been known to quarrel. Each is 6ft. high, and twenty years old.

They were formerly attached to the Brighton Police, which they joined and left together. When they joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, one more robust than the other, was adjudged fit for foreign service, and the weaker one for home service. This distressed the pair, and the weaker of the two again visited the authorities and pleaded that they could not be separated, and that he wished to be with his brother on foreign service. The authorities, touched by the simple devotion, arranged that they should be together.

They joined as privates, were in the trenches together, and have been at the front for twenty months. Together they were promoted to lance-corporals, and at the same time were transferred to the military police. Christopher was wounded, and begged not to be sent to the base, lest he should be sent home without Clifford. He was allowed to remain, and Clifford saw him every day. The two were granted leave together, went home together, and returned to the front together.

Then infants, so alike, were they that to distinguish one from the other, different coloured ribbons had to be tied on their wrists. Throughout their lives they have always shared in everything, and in peace time, and when home on leave, they count their money every night to make certain that each possesses the same sum.

AMERICAN AIRMAN'S RECORD.

Reuters' Correspondent at the French Headquarters writes: "Second Lieut. Enghart, of the 88th of the American Lafayette Flying Squadron, brought down two German aeroplanes in single combat on Sept. 4th and 5th. This brings Lieutenant Enghart's total of German machines destroyed up to eleven. Lieut. Enghart, among other distinctions, holds the British Military Medal."

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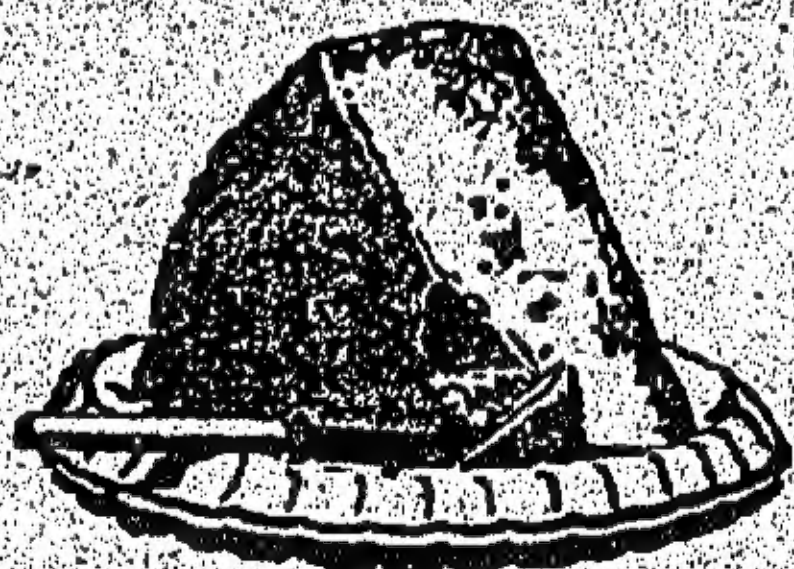
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For further information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbills, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to

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Capt. Ogura

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NAGASAKI, KOBE and **TANGO MARU** (SATURDAY, 17th Nov., at 11 A.M.)
Capt. Soyed

SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI and KOBE

SHANGHAI, KOBE and **KASHIMA MARU** (THURSDAY, 22nd Nov., at 11 A.M.)
Capt. Totsuka
YOKOHAMA and **MISHIMA MARU** (MONDAY, 2nd Dec., at 11 A.M.)
Capt. Nishimura

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PERMA MARU	9,000	FRI., 7th Dec.
SIMBIA MARU	14,000	MON., 31st Dec.
TENYO MARU	22,000	WED., 11th Jan. 1918.

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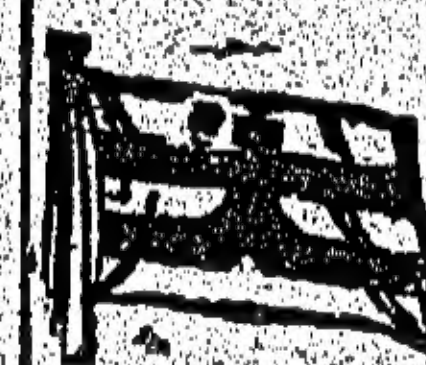
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"CHICAGO MARU" ... TUESDAY, 20th Nov., at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Pacific Coast ports, calling at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connection is made at Pacific Coast ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

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FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Anping, T. Kuo, via Swatow and Amoy.

"BOSCHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 8th Nov., at 8 A.M.
"KAIYO MARU" ... MONDAY, 11th Nov., at 10 A.M.
"ANAKURA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 18th Nov., at 10 A.M.

These Formosan Lineers will arrive at and depart from the SHON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside this wharf Telephone No. 76 will be used.

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